

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph on page 1, lines 23-30 with the following paragraph:

The term "protease" is defined herein as an enzyme that hydrolyses peptide bonds. It includes any enzyme belonging to the EC 3.4 enzyme group (including each of the thirteen subclasses thereof). The EC number refers to Enzyme Nomenclature 1992 from NC-IUBMB, Academic Press, San Diego, California, including supplements 1-5 published in Eur. J. Biochem. 1997, 250, 1-6; and Eur. J. Biochem. 1999, 264, 610-650; respectively. The nomenclature is regularly supplemented and updated; see e.g. the World Wide Web(WWW) at <http://www.chem.gmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/index.html>) www.chem.gmw.ac.uk/iubmb/enzyme/index.html.

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph on page 5, lines 10-16 with the following paragraph:

Another classification system of proteolytic enzymes is based on sequence information, and is therefore used more often in the art of molecular biology; it is described in Rawlings, N.D. et al., 2002, MEROPS: The protease database. Nucleic Acids Res. 30:343-346. The MEROPS database is freely available electronically at <http://www.merops.ac.uk> on the World Wide Web at www.merops.ac.uk. According to the MEROPS system, the proteolytic enzymes classified as S2A in 'The Handbook of Proteolytic Enzymes', are in MEROPS classified as 'S1E' proteases (Rawlings ND, Barrett AJ. (1993). Evolutionary families of peptidases, Biochem. J. 290;205-218).

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph on page 13, lines 14-16 with the following paragraph:

Another preferred embodiment relates to a polypeptide of the first aspect, wherein the one or more added amino acids are selected from the group consisting of: QSHVQSAP (SEQ ID NO:3), QSAP (SEQ ID NO:5), QP, TL, TT, QL, TP, LP, TI, IQ, QP, PI, LT, TQ, IT, QQ and PQ.